NEWSLETTER

PHILATELY

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The Father of the Postage Stamp

Do you know why the stamps of Great Britain don't have the country printed on the stamp? This is because Great Britain was the first country in the world to issue a stamp to show postage had been paid before a letter was delivered.

Sir Rowland Hill, the person who invented the idea of a postage stamp, was born in 1795 at Kidderminster (Worcestershire), a small town in west England. When Sir Rowland Hill grew up, he became a schoolteacher.

At that time Great Britain's Post Offices lost lots of money, as it was the receiver of the letter who had to pay for its delivery, not the person who sent the letter. So, some poor families didn't have enough money to pay the postage, which meant that the Post Office had carried lots of letters for nothing.

One day Sir Rowland Hill saw
a girl and a postman
quarrelling about a letter.
Because the girl's family was very
poor they didn't have enough
money to pay for its delivery. Sir
Rowland Hill wanted to pay for the
postage, but the girl disagreed and so
the postman took the letter away. It was then
that she told him there was no message inside the
letter, her relatives had made a circle on the
envelope which told her they were safe and sound,
so when she saw this she knew everything was fine
and she had no need to pay for the letter.

This was why the Post Offices of Great Britain lost so much money. Sir Rowland Hill came up with the idea of a small postal charge to be paid by the person sending the letter. In 1837 he wrote a book called "Postal Reform, its Importance and Practicability", which suggested some great ideas to change losing money to making money.

The first idea was that in Great Britain all letters up to half an ounce would be one penny, and paid by the sender not the receiver. His second idea was the issuing of an adhesive postage label. On 27th July 1839 his postal reform was passed by Parliament, and on 17 August 1839, Queen Victoria agreed to the issue of the first postage stamp and expressed great satisfaction with the

The Treasury wasted no time in putting Rowland Hill's reforms in hand. They sponsored a competition in which the public were invited to submit designs for the stamps. The Treasury competition brought more than 2600 entries, though none was considered suitable to use.

proposed reduction of the postal rate, and

It seems that the idea of Britain's new stamps just emerged from a host of suggestions, and that Hill himself elected to use the Queen's portrait as their main feature.

Thus were born the Penny Black and Twopenny Blue.

The stamps were issued on 6th May 1840, printed in black with a denomination of one penny. This is why the stamp is called the "Penny Black".

The Penny Black is not a very rare stamp, because many were issued; however it was the first postage stamp in the world and the beginning of our postal service of today.

Later Sir Rowland Hill became Secretary to the Postmaster General of Great Britain in 1846, and was given his knighthood in 1860 by Queen Victoria for his services to the Empire. He died on 27th August 1879 at his home in Hampstead London.

Imagine a world without stamps.

Philatelic Accessory - Perforation Gauge

Enclosed with this newsletter is a perforation gauge, which has been donated to NZ young collectors by the Exhibition Committee of Philakorea 2002. This is a useful piece of equipment along with your tweezers. Here is the way in which to calculate perforations correctly.

Perforations are the small holes between stamps which help you tear them apart. Two stamps which look alike may have perforations of different sizes.

If a catalogue lists a stamp as *Perf 13*, that means it has 13 complete perforations (teeth plus holes) in every two centimetres. If the top measure is different from the side, the top number is written first: *Perf 13 x 14*, for example.

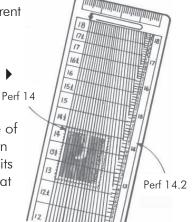
If the stamp is not too small, you can measure two centimetres with a ruler and then count the perforations, but it is easier to use a transparent perforation gauge.

◆ Put the gauge over the stamp, keeping the guideline on the left at right angles to the row of perforations you are measuring. Slide the gauge up and down until each tooth has a vertical line running exactly through it. The figure

on the left shows the "gauge" of the perforation. The figures on the right show it exact to the nearest decimal point.

Perforation gauge

To measure the Perf perforations down the side of the stamp, turn the stamp on its side and repeat the process.



Youth Philatelist of the Year 2010

New Zealand Philatelic Federation – Youth Philatelist of the Year Nomination 2010

Tait Alexander Beekmans

Guideline

perforations

Row of

at right angles to

Perf 15

Tait has been a member of the City of Sails Stamp Club in Auckland since 2004 when he was introduced to stamp collecting at the Kids Fair Expowhere the club had a promotion.

In 2005 he attended his first PYC Stamp Camp in Wainuiomata, completing an eight page exhibit on New Zealand stamps issued in 1992, this exhibit being entered into the New Zealand 2005 Stamp Exhibition.

He has attended six stamp camps, exhibited at local stamp exhibitions, New Zealand, Australian National and International Exhibitions. Tait's exhibit now comprises three frames on New Zealand Queen Elizabeth II definitives from 1955 to 1960. He gained his first Vermeil medal at Tarapex in 2008.

Tait contributes to the promotion of philately as well as exhibiting. He has been guest speaker at philatelic societies including Christchurch (while at stamp camp), North Shore, Wellesley, Howick and South Auckland. In addition he has displayed and

spoken about his stamps to Papatoetoe Lions Club, Auckland branch of the Baden Powell Guild and to the Eden/ Epsom Probus Club.

Tait is always willing to help at expo stands



Tait receiving his Certificate from Federation Delegate Tim Beach.

promoting stamp collecting.

At stamp camp 2010 Tait proved himself to be a worthy team leader, where he ably presented two workshops to the younger campers. He was awarded the Val Hunt trophy for his efforts at camp this year. Tait is currently working towards his Gold Philatelic Youth Council award.

CONGRATULATIONS

The following collectors have received an Achievement Award since our last listing in December 2009.

Bronze

Alexander Breslin
Caleb Murphy
Leyton Wright
Chris Townsend
Louisa Slack
Marcus Hughan
Catherine Davies
Jonathon Davies

Silver - Bronze

Leaf Burrows
Anna McTaggart
Kieran Liddington
Louisa Slack
Isabella Beach
Sharon McTaggart

Silver

Tait Beekmans Michael Davis

Quiz Winners

The three lucky people, who did the quiz at Palmerston North 2010 exhibition and who had their names pulled out of our box have been posted their special pack donated by New Zealand Post. Andrew of Bulls, Matthew of Palmerston North and Dorien of Levin.

CONGRATULATIONS

It was great to see so many new exhibitors entering **Development Class** Palmpex 2010.

Hadley Muller Sapphire Sharon McTaggart Sapphire Charyne Sundgren Sapphire Kacy Bellve Emerald Ryan Smith Sapphire Aaron Marshall Sapphire Ben Marshall Topaz Catherine Davies Sapphire Jonathon Davies Sapphire Emerald Michael Davis Louisa Slack Topaz Anna McTaggart Ruby

National Class

Brydon Sundgren Silver
Kieran Liddington Silver
Isabella Beach Silver
Tait Beekmans Large Silver
Timothy Kemp Large Silver

HIDDEN MESSAGE

Can you decipher this coded message?

Use the grid to help you.

19 12 7 16 * 12 *

ŀ	,1/	6	25	^	19	20) 2	3	12	5	16	23	10	á
100	A 12	B 13	C 14	D 15	E 16	F 17	G 18	H 19	1 20	J 21	K 22	L 23	M 24	b. b. b.
	N 25						T 5	U 6	V 7			Y 10		

Palmpex 2010 Photos





Young visitors to Palmpex 2010 enjoyed the many activities which were there for them to take part in.

As usual our big dip tin, a suitcase full of stamps, proved to be very popular, with the great variety of stamps which were in it. Also our quiz proved to be very enjoyable and you will note on this page the three lucky winners, who received the New Zealand Post prizes. Obviously as can be seen below our big bird had lots more stamps stuck on to him!



A Slice of Heaven Word Puzzle

